

## **EXHIBIT 7**

### Affidavit of Peggy Davis

AFFIDAVIT OF PEGGY DAVIS

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, personally appeared, Peggy Davis, who upon being first duly sworn, states as follows:

1. My name is Peggy Davis. I live with my husband Fred Davis and our children and grandchildren on our 10,000-acre ranch, 25 miles from the Arizona/Mexico border and 12 miles from the town of Tombstone, Arizona. I have lived on the property for 43 years.
2. I work as a clerk for the Whitewater Draw Natural Resource Conservation District (WWDNRCD) and as their Education Center Director in Southeastern Arizona. In my role as clerk and Education Center Director for WWDNRCD, I plan workshops for local cooperators and students so that they may learn about the newest innovative methods of working on their property. We have had workshops on Estate Planning for Farmers and Ranchers, Water and Soil workshops, Solar workshops, Ranch Tour workshops as well as providing funds for students to attend other agriculture-related activities. Our goal is to encourage local students to choose agricultural vocations in the future. Unfortunately, so many of our members have, as I have, suffered environmental damage to their lands at the hands of illegal border-crossers. In addition to my membership and involvement in WWDNRCD, I am a member of the Arizona Cattle Growers

Association, Arizona Farm Bureau, Cochise County Sheriff's Rancher's Advisory Team, and I am past-president of San Pedro Cattlewomen.

3. I grew up on a four-generation cattle ranch in Colorado. I am a licensed cosmetologist in Colorado and Arizona. I have not worked as such for many years, due partly to the fact that I have to drive rural roads where drug-trafficking takes place. I actively work on the ranch with my husband, Fred, and our grown children. In my youth, I was a Colorado State 4-H Horse Project winner and attended National 4-H Congress in Chicago, Illinois. Because of that history and my love for youth agriculture projects, I was a 4-H leader for five years in Cochise County while our children were growing up. My focus was in agriculture projects, primarily the Horse Program. I enjoyed teaching my children how to take proper care of their horses and safety techniques with them. Horses are an important aspect of our working ranch.
4. Our ranch used to be a quiet and wonderful place to live and raise a family. I used to take walks or bike rides regularly, but now I am afraid to go alone without a firearm. Even if I am armed I can be overtaken easily. However, because the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and its predecessor agency the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS) have adopted policies that fail to secure the border, it feels like our land has been under siege. Over the past few decades, the huge flow of the illegal border-crossers encouraged by the DHS' lax

interior enforcement policies as well as amnesty programs has significantly diminished my quiet enjoyment of my property. Just dealing with the refuse left behind by border-crossers is exhausting all on its own. We are constantly picking up endless amounts of trash, including diapers, baby bottles, clothes, electronic items, blankets, hypodermic needles and even pregnancy tests! We even sometimes have to deal with abandoned vehicles by drug carriers! We are also constantly having to repair cut fences. I have documented some of this damage with photos of the things I have found on my property and fences that have been damaged:















5. Dealing with the trash and fixing the damage, however, is not the worst of how my enjoyment of my property has been spoiled. When DHS leaves the border unsecured, the people who cross do not always have peaceful intentions. These days, the drug cartels have become so powerful and so prone to violence at the border, we don't feel like it is safe for the children to go outside anymore. It causes me such anguish to know that my grandchildren can't ride their horses or bicycles out of my sight the way my children could, because we are afraid for their safety.
6. It also makes me angry that so many people seem to blame *us* for being constantly on the defense. Our property, lives, and tranquility are threatened, and yet if we even try to lawfully defend ourselves we are called "vigilantes." My husband Fred has been featured in newspaper articles with headlines claiming that he is a "Border Vigilante" and asking if he is "crossing the line" by participating in a border watch (see picture below). It is degrading to be labeled as someone who is trying to take the law into their own hands. I am a law-abiding citizen and these accusations fuel the disrespectful attitudes of the illegal aliens that we encounter.



## Border watch crossing the line?



Horse trainer Stan White surveys fire damage in a pasture near Tombstone. White said he spent last Thursday trying to extinguish a 20-acre blaze he suspects was started by illegal immigrants.

We, as the government of Mexico, can bring suit, with proof, against those who have violated the rights and dignity of Mexico. We will take this as far as we have to.

Rosario Green  
Mexican  
foreign minister

## Ranchers, Mexico at odds

By Leslie Borden  
The Arizona Republic

**DOUGLAS** The U.S. Mexico border here has become a battlefield as ranchers' complaints about the practice of detaining illegal immigrants who cross their

land and trash their property. Armed with guns, cell phones and night-vision scopes, some of the property owners for months have been rounding up 20 to 30 border crossers a night and turning them over to U.S. Border Patrol

officials. Mexican officials are reacting at reports that some of the most militant ranchers have recently moved onto public roads to make their stops.

A brochure encouraging borderers to help ranchers catch border crossers alarmed diplomats further when it appeared in Douglas two weeks ago.

And last week, Mexican Foreign Minister Rosario Green said her government has told Washington, D.C. attorneys to look into suing the ranchers over possible human rights violations.

"We, as the government of Mexico, can bring suit, with proof, against those who have violated the rights and dignity of Mexico," said Green, who called the detentions racist and dangerous. "We will take this as far as we have to."



Phoenix Mexican Consul Salvador Casillas-Santos cited 24 incidents between April 1999 and April 2000 in which armed property owners stopped illegal immigrants. See RANCHERS (Page A1)

Opponents: Border policy costs lives.



Fred Davis, who ranches about 24 miles from the Mexican border, feeds blankets, water jugs and diapers on the land.

## Border vigilantism assailed

A sport stretch of the U.S.-Mexican border in Cochise County is at center stage in the conflict between job-hungry illegal immigrants and ranchers alarmed by what they consider an invasion. Here's a look at recent events:

**April 1999:** Cochise County Conserved Citizens, which represents about 30 ranchers along the border, demands that Gov. Jane Hull send the National Guard to assist the Border Patrol. Hull declines.

**July 1999:** Fed up with the loss of border crossers and his city's negative image, Douglas Mayor Ray Borame launches out at U.S. employers who entice illegal immigrants to head north.

**April 2000:** A brochure inviting snowbirds to help catch illegal immigrants while on a southern Arizona ranch vacation sets off alarms on both sides of the border.



Ranchers say the flood of immigrants has forced them to act.



**The funnel effect**

Tensions between ranchers and illegal immigrants began to rise two years ago, when Border Patrol crackdowns in Texas and California made southeastern Arizona the preferred route into the country. Government agents now are screening about 25,000 illegal border crossers a month in the Douglas area. But scores are being rounded up by armed ranchers, who say the border crossers are ruining their land.

**Last Friday:** The Border Patrol announces the addition of 100 temporary positions and 40 temporary dogs to the Douglas station, as well as better equipment.



The Border Patrol catches thousands of illegal crossers every month, but thousands more slip by.

**Thursday:** Washington and Mexico City condemn 'vigilante justice' by Arizona ranchers, who both nations pledge to send more law officers to the border. Mexican officials say a U.S. law firm has advised that ranchers may exist for legal action against vigilante ranchers, and that Attorney General Janet Reno has offered to help. The U.S. House, meanwhile, approves an amendment permitting the military to be sent to the border.



Mexican official Rosario Green (left) and Secretary of State Madeleine Albright.

## U.S., Mexico vow to attack problem

By Jeff Barker  
Pamela Washington Bureau

**WASHINGTON** — The U.S. and Mexican governments issued an extraordinary joint statement Thursday condemning "vigilante justice" by Arizona ranchers against illegal immigrants.

At the same time, the House went even further, approving an amendment permitting the military

would increase their law enforcement presence on the border.

Mexico's foreign relations secretary said she was advised by a U.S. firm that grounds may exist for legal action against ranchers, and that Attorney General Janet Reno has offered to help.

The conflicting views illustrated the gulf between Congress and the Clinton administration over how to han-

dling the attention of the nations' highest leaders.

After a meeting with senior Mexican officials, Secretary of State Madeleine Albright suggested Thursday that both nations increase their border presence, but she rejected the use of troops.

"We have made clear, both of us, that we are very concerned about what has been happening in Arizona and we agreed that such behavior

I think it's very important that it be totally clear that vigilante justice is unacceptable.



Secretary of State

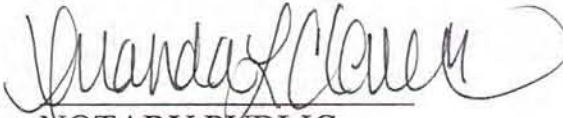
7. I feel like if DHS had operated with more transparency about its policies and had informed the public about the environmental damage illegal border-crossers can and do wreak on our land, as it is required to, perhaps we would not have had so much blame placed falsely on us.
8. The degradation of the environment that my family and I face is due in large part to the policies of DHS. The border-activities of illegal aliens are in response to DHS policies, and my family and I have long understood that. I recently became aware, however, that DHS has been violating the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) by not conducting an environmental analysis before it adopts them.
9. Perhaps, if DHS had done the proper analysis and informed the public when it made discretionary decisions that encouraged illegal aliens to continue crossing the border, as the law requires, it would have decided that it was important to ramp up enforcement instead. Perhaps the public, if it had understood the environmental costs of DHS's actions, would have demanded more effective enforcement. My land and the whole border region in the Southwest might look different today—unspoiled, serene, and undamaged environmentally. Instead, ceaseless flows of people have crossed the border, with no end in sight to the number of crossers and the resulting damage, because our government has simply given up.

10. The stress and anxiety that the DHS has caused me as a result of its nonenforcement policies has adversely affected my health. I often suffer from depression and adequate sleep is difficult because of our constant vigilance--I back my car into the garage so that I can see that no one enters the door before it closes.
11. As DHS continues to adopt policies without considering their environmental impact, I expect the drug-running to continue and I expect I will never feel the peace and safety I felt when I first moved to the ranch. If DHS would only start following NEPA in the future, however, it might change its policies, and I might be able to feel that my grandchildren can imagine a life on the ranch the way I once did.

FURTHER AFFIANT SAYETH NOT.

  
Peggy Davis

Subscribed and sworn to before me on 30th Sept 2016 by PEGGY DAVIS.  
She is personally known to me or has presented AZ DL  
as identification.

  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
STATE OF ARIZONA  
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES  
July 15, 2018

